

When Chief Feola Returns Shift Changes Will Be Remedied

Lt. Stockbridge has one more week to serve as the man-in-charge of the Police Department, if Chief Feola returns to duty March 6 as planned.

In past weeks there has been massive confusion as to the exact nature of Stockbridge's appointment. The time of day he would work, the pay he would receive, and the duties he was responsible for, all seemed highly moot questions and required the advice and decisions of lawyers from the town and Civil Service.

Finally last week, Stockbridge's assignment was outlined — he was officially appointed by Selectmen to perform the duties of the Chief as lieutenant-in-charge of the Department — after a ruling by Charles Humphreys, counsel for the town. Apparently, however, relief that the matter was settled was not complete as

there remained complaints within the Police Department.

Attorney Humphreys explained his ruling. Fundamentally, duties in a rank structure devolve to the next officer when a senior officer is absent and is part of the job. "There are, however, particular statutory obligations that relate to the Chief, head of the department, or his designee," Humphreys said.

A formal designation was required, in writing from the Selectmen, if Stockbridge were to perform the Chief's duties as man-in-charge. That accomplished, the collective bargaining contract governed the stipulation that appointed duties of higher responsibility command a corresponding salary, Humphreys explained.

Humphreys believes that the Selectmen's rationale was to move Stockbridge to daytime duty because that is the time of

most active police work. If the Selectmen were to leave Stockbridge in his old shift of 4 p.m. to midnight, he would probably run up overtime far exceeding the Chief's salary. A chief's salary is 1.8 times the maximum patrolman's rate of pay, Humphreys said.

A chief has no set shift, Humphreys continued, he must be at the Police Department whenever needed. As a result of Stockbridge's switch to a daily schedule, Sgt. John Rhodes has been transferred to the 4 p.m. to midnight shift from his regular 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. shift.

Humphreys said the men in the Police Department have been trained to accept changes of shift assignments and have little trouble dealing with the transition. The matter of adjusting to a change in shifts may not prove personally troublesome, yet apparently Rhodes is disturbed because he feels that his shift change creates yet another vacancy, now making two, in the 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. shift, leaving the department short of working police officers during this time.

When Chief Feola returns the men will resume their regular shifts and the problems revolving around temporary assignments and shift changes should be alleviated.

Choral Art Society Begins 21st Season

The Choral Art Society, now in its 21st season, has begun rehearsals for a May performance of Mozart's "Solemn Vespers" and Handel's "O Praise the Lord with One Consent." The Society is actively seeking new members, and talented amateurs, semi-professional and professional singers are invited to join the rehearsals which are taking place every Monday evening at 8 p.m. in the music room of Marshfield High School.

For further information call 659-4604.



SIGN SPEAKS FOR ITSELF warning skaters ice no longer is safe on Lily Pond.

Feola

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"My health at the present time is excellent, I feel very good. All I needed was a short rest in the sunshine," Chief Feola attested. "At present I'm riding my bike five miles a day, swimming and doing light exercises. In fact, it's the best I've felt since my hernia operation. I will return to duty on March 6, 1979."

Feola said that since his return to duty last year on April 20 after his vacation and recuperation from the hernia operation that was performed in Florida, he has not taken a day off except for his current vacation. During this period, Feola claimed he has worked on his days off around the

clock, for a total of 78 days and that he had not taken any sick leave since his appointment as Chief.

Feola concluded his reply by requesting that Selectmen investigate the possibility of increasing his vacation days.

The Chief feels that his vacation days have been curtailed because he doesn't receive the same benefits given to regular personnel, Selectman Arthur Clark said.

Clark remarked that he was pleased with Feola's response, that it ended the uncertainty of his status and that it answered in writing the question of how the Police Department was to be manned, at least for the near future.

WGBH To Start Soliciting

WGBH, Channel 2, Boston's public television station, announces the start of solicitation of merchandise, art and antiques for this year's auction, to be aired on Channel 2 June 1 - 9.

Cohasset merchants, artists and private collectors have given generous support to the auction in past years. They will be contacted again this year by a team of 14 local "go-getters." Cohasset go-captains are Susan Shumaker and Pat Baird.

Special attractions for artists are the regional and Prudential Center art and antique shows preceding the

auction. Works contributed by Cohasset artists will be shown at the Hingham Public Library April 8 - 29, along with those of other South Shore artists. The show, composed of art selected from the regional shows, will begin in mid-May.

Art sales are a big part of the money-raising effort of the auction. Contributions of art and antiques from new as well as former contributors would be greatly appreciated.

Artists and collectors who have not given in the past and would like to do so this year should call Susan Shumaker at 383-1443.



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